

**United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa continued**

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**Chambers of Chief Judge Robert W. Pratt**

U.S. Courthouse, 123 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309  
Tel: (515) 284-6254 Fax: (515) 323-2907  
E-mail: Robert\_Pratt@iasd.uscourts.gov

**Robert W. Pratt**  
Chief Judge

Date of Birth: 1947  
Education: Loras 1969 BA; Creighton 1972 JD  
Began Service: July 1, 1997  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

**Legal Practice:** Staff Attorney, Polk County Legal Aid Society (1973-1974); Associate, Funaro, Brick & Pratt (1975-1978); Partner, Hedberg, Brick, Tann, Pratt & Ward (1978-1985); Private Practice (1985-1997)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers; Iowa Association of Workers' Compensation Attorneys; Iowa State Bar Association; Iowa Trial Lawyers Association; National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives; Polk County Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Nova Janssen** ..... (515) 284-6254  
Law Clerk **Emily Willits** ..... (515) 284-6254  
Education: NYU 2004 JD  
Chamber Administrator **Michael L. Messina** ..... (515) 284-6254  
E-mail: messinam@aol.com

**Chambers of District Judge Ronald E. Longstaff**

115 U.S. Courthouse, 123 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309  
Tel: (515) 284-6235 Fax: (515) 284-6491

**Ronald E. Longstaff**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1941  
Education: Pittsburg State 1962 BA; Iowa 1965 JD  
Began Service: November 5, 1991  
Appointed By: President George H.W. Bush  
Political Affiliation: Republican

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, Drake Law School (1973-1976)

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable Roy L. Stephenson, United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa (1965-1967)

**Judicial:** Clerk of Court and Magistrate Judge (part-time), United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa (1968-1976); Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa (1976-1991); Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa (2006)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, McWilliams, Gross and Kirtley (1967-1968)

**Chambers of District Judge Ronald E. Longstaff continued**

**Current Memberships:** C. Edwin Moore Inn of Court; Federal Judges' Association; Iowa State Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Kelsey Knowles** ..... (515) 284-6455  
Education: Boston Col 2004 JD  
Career Law Clerk **Carla J. Hamborg** ..... (515) 284-6458  
Education: Drake 1992 JD  
Secretary **Debby Grimm** ..... (515) 284-6235  
Education: Upper Iowa 1989 BS

**Chambers of District Judge James E. Gritzner**

U.S. Courthouse, 123 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309  
P.O. Box 9344, Des Moines, IA 50306-9344  
Tel: (515) 284-6291 Fax: (515) 284-6205

**James E. Gritzner**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1947  
Education: Dakota Wesleyan 1969 BA; Northern Iowa 1974 MA; Drake 1979 JD  
Began Service: February 19, 2002  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Clerkships:** Assistant The Honorable Ronald Longstaff, United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa (1977-1979)

**Government:** Member, Iowa Board of Parole (1980-1982)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Mosier, Thomas, Beatty, Dutton, Braun & Staack (1979-1981); Partner, Humphrey, Haas & Gritzner (1981-1982); Partner, Nyemaster, Goode, Voigts, West, Hansell & O'Brien, P.C. (1982-2002)

**Staff**

Judicial Assistant **Nancy Harris** ..... (515) 284-6291  
E-mail: Nancy\_Harris@iasd.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Senior Judge Harold D. Vietor**

U.S. Courthouse, 123 East Walnut Street, Room 485, Des Moines, IA 50309  
Tel: (515) 284-6237 Fax: (515) 284-6460  
E-mail: Harold\_D\_Vietor@iasd.uscourts.gov

**Harold D. Vietor**  
Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1931  
Education: Iowa 1955 BA, 1958 JD  
Began Service: 1979  
Appointed By: President Jimmy Carter

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable Martin Van Oosterhout, United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (1958-1959)

**Judicial:** Judge, Iowa District Court (1965-1979)

**Legal Practice:** Bleakley Law Offices (1959-1965)

**Military Service:** United States Navy (1952-1954)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; Eighth Circuit District Judges Association; Federal Judges Association; Iowa State Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Robert Lawler** ..... (515) 284-6237  
Began Service: August 2005  
Term Expires: August 2007  
Education: Iowa 2005 JD  
Career Law Clerk **Aaron Rogers** ..... (515) 284-6237  
Education: Iowa 2004 JD  
Secretary **Mary Loughlin** ..... (515) 284-6237  
Education: Iowa 1973 BA

**Chambers of Senior Judge Charles R. Wolle**

110 East Court Avenue, Room 403, Des Moines, IA 50309  
Tel: (515) 284-6289 Fax: (515) 284-6440

**Charles R. Wolle**  
Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1935  
Education: Harvard 1959 AB; Iowa 1961 JD  
Began Service: August 1987  
Appointed By: President Ronald Reagan

**Judicial:** Judge, Iowa District Court (1981-1983); Justice, Iowa Supreme Court (1983-1987)

**Legal Practice:** Associate then Partner, Shull, Marshall & Marks (1961-1980)

**Military Service:** United States Army Reserve (1961-1967)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American College of Trial Lawyers

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Ann Beneke** ..... (515) 284-6289  
Education: Iowa JD

**Chambers of Chief Magistrate Judge Thomas J. Shields**

U.S. Courthouse, 131 East 4th Street, Room 228, Davenport, IA 52801  
Tel: (563) 884-7601 Fax: (563) 884-7604  
E-mail: tom\_shields@iasd.uscourts.gov

**Thomas J. Shields**  
Chief Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1947  
Education: William & Mary 1969 BA; Indiana 1972 JD  
Began Service: 1997  
Term Expires: 2008

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable W. C. Stuart, United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa (1972-1974)

**Legal Practice:** Lane & Waterman (1974-2000)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American Board of Trial Lawyers; American College of Trial Lawyers; American Trial Lawyers Association; Judicial Member; Defense Research Institute; Indiana State Bar Association; Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers; Iowa Defense Council; Iowa State Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Jed Brokaw** ..... (563) 884-7601  
E-mail: jed\_brokaw@iasd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Drake 1995 JD  
Judicial Assistant **Deborah Moses** ..... (563) 884-7601  
E-mail: debbie\_moses@iasd.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge Ross A. Walters**

440 U.S. Courthouse, 123 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309  
Tel: (515) 284-6217 Fax: (515) 284-6442

**Ross A. Walters**  
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1949  
Education: Penn State 1971 BA; Iowa 1977 JD  
Began Service: 1994  
Term Expires: 2010

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable William C. Hanson, United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa (1977-1979)

**Judicial:** Judge, Iowa District Court, 5-C Judicial District (1990-1994)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Herrick, Langdon & Langdon (1979-1982); Partner, Herrick, Langdon & Langdon (1982-1990)

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge Ross A. Walters continued**

**Military Service:** United States Naval Reserve (1971-1974)

**Staff**

Judicial Assistant **Nancy Ryan** ..... (515) 284-6217

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge Celeste F. Bremer**

435 U.S. Courthouse, Des Moines, IA 50309-2036  
Tel: (515) 284-6200 Fax: (515) 284-7392

**Celeste F. Bremer**  
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1953  
Education: St Ambrose 1974 BA; Iowa 1977 JD; Drake 2002 EdD  
Began Service: January 1, 1990  
Term Expires: January 1, 2014

**Academic:** Instructor, Drake University College of Law (1985-1990); Instructor, Drake University (2003-2005)

**Government:** Assistant County Attorney, Scott County, Iowa (1977-1979); Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, State of Iowa (1979)

**Judicial:** Magistrate Judge (part-time), United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa (1985-1990)

**Legal Practice:** Partner, Rabin, Liebbe, Shinkle and Bremer (1981-1982); Counsel, Legal Department, Deere and Company (1982-1984); Partner, Carlin, Liebbe, Pitton and Bremer (1979-1981); Counsel, Economy Forms Corporation (1985-1989)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American Judicature Society; C. Edwin Moore Chapter American Inns of Court; Federal Magistrate Judges Association; Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys; Iowa State Bar Association; National Association of Women Judges; Polk County Bar Association; Polk County Women Attorneys

**Staff**

Career Law Clerk **Nancy P. O'Brien** ..... (515) 284-6264  
Education: Missouri 1992 JD  
Secretary **Melanie Ritchey** ..... (515) 284-6200

**United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Iowa**

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**Number of Judgeships:** 1

**Court Staff**

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